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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/588,350 | 06/07/2000 | Kazuo Matsuyama | 0162/00557 | 8119 |

7590 01/30/2004

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| EXAMINER |
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ELISCA, PIERRE E

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3621

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/588,350

Applicant(s)

Kazuo Matsuyama et al.

Examiner

Pierre E. Elisca

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01/13/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

RESPONSE TO RCE

1. This Office action is in response to Applicant's RCE, filed on 01/13/2004.
2. Claims 1-26 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. **The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Walker et al. (U.S. pat. No. 6,240,396).

As per claims 1, 3-26 Walker discloses a system/method for managing conditional purchase offers, where an individual searching for a ticket to a particular event may provide a guarantee purchase offer to a plurality of potential sellers (which is seen to read as Applicant's claimed invention wherein it is stated that a method of processing an issuance of electronic rights information in a rights

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information processing system in which a user terminal unit, an issuer unit, and an account unit are interconnected on a communication network through which electronic tickets can be circulated)

comprising:

transmitting an account address and a demand for issuance from a user terminal unit to an issuer unit (see., fig 5C, col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-4);

causing the issuer unit to transmit the demand for issuance to an account unit which corresponds to the account address (see., abstract, col 7, lines 58-67, col 8, lines 1-62);

to obtain a user identifier from the account unit (see., Fig 5C, col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-7);

to prepare an electronic tickets inclusive of the user identifier (see., Fig 5C, col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-7);

and to transmit the electronic tickets to the account unit through the communication network (see., col 7, lines 58-67, col 8, lines 1-62); and

causing the account unit corresponding to the user's account address to store the electronic tickets in a storage in said account unit (see., Fig 5C, col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-7, table 530, ID or signature. Applicant's newly added limitation is also disclosed by walker in col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-7, specifically wherein said customer database 530 maintains a plurality of records, such as records 546 and 548, each associated with a different customer. Customers registered in customer table 530 may buy tickets, sell tickets or both buy and sell tickets. Customer table 530 stores a unique customer identifier for each customer in field and name and address information in field 534 and 536).

Walker further discloses the limitation in claim 3 wherein said electronic rights information should

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be passed for a ticket examination or not see., abstract, col 8, lines 10-63, specifically wherein it is stated that central controller requests a customer Id and compares the information provided by the user with information already stored in customer table 530. If a match is found, central controller retrieves the customer ID.

As per claim 2, Walker discloses the claimed method, comprises:

causing the issuer unit to access the account address of the user upon receiving the demand for issuance (see., abstract, col 7, lines 58-67, col 8, lines 1-62);

causing the accessed account unit to transmit a certificate of account address which guarantees a correspondence relationship between the account address assigned to the user and an identifier of the user of the account unit to the issuer (see., col 7, lines 58-67, col 8, lines 1-25, electronic acceptance or certificate);

causing the issuer unit to verify the certificate of account address and allowing it to use the identifier of the user contained in the certificate of account address as the user identifier upon successful verification (see., Fig 5C, col 4, lines 62-67, col 5, lines 1-7).

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

5. Applicant's arguments filed on 01/13/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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REMARKS

6. Applicant argues that Walker does not teach or suggest alone or in combination:
- a. “ electronic rights information should be passed for a ticket examination or not see., abstract, col 8, lines 10-63, specifically wherein said central controller requests a customer Id and compares the information provided by the user with information already stored in customer table 530. If a match is found, central controller retrieves the customer ID, and therefore, the customer ID is interpreted as an electronic rights information.
 - b. “Causing the issuer unit to access the account address of the user upon receiving the demand”. As indicated above, Walker discloses this limitation in col 7, lines 58-67, col 8, lines 1-25.
 - c. “Electronic rights information is sent from the issuer to the account unit corresponding to the user. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees since Walker discloses in col 8, lines 10-63.

CONCLUSION

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Pierre Eddy Elisca at (703) 305-3987. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 6:30AM to 5:00PM.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents of Trademarks

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Washington, D.C. 20231

The Official Fax Numbers For TC-3600 is:

(703) 305-7687



Pierre Eddy Elisca

Primary Patent Examiner

January 26, 2004